

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on Thursday, 13th June, 2013 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

Cllrs, Bonallie, Howe, Kay, T. Martin, Shattock, Tate, Waller and N. Wright

Co-opted Members - Ms A. Blakey, Ms R. Elliott and Ms. H. Harper

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No items

E. WAUGH,
Head of Law and Governance,
Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

5th June, 2013.

At a meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on THURSDAY, 25th APRIL, 2013 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Tate in the Chair

Councillors Bonallie, Francis, T. Martin, Shattock, N. Wright and Ms. A. Blakey

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Errington and Howe and from Ms. R. Elliott.

Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on 14th March, 2013

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 14th March, 2013 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

Reference from Cabinet – 17th April, 2013 – Sunderland’s Local Development Framework Evidence Base : The Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and Draft Settlement Break Review

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report (copy circulated), setting out for the advice and consideration of the Committee a report considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 17th April, 2013, on the Strategic Housing Land Availability Study and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment for its use in developing the Local Development Framework and to assist in the determination of day to day planning applications. The Cabinet were further requested to approve the Draft Settlement Break Review for public consultation.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Neil Cole, Lead Policy Officer for Planning, presented the report to Members advising that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment were effectively technical reports and that there was no formal requirement to undertake any formal public consultation, although, both

the demand and supply of housing would be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report.

The draft Settlement Break Review would be made available for public consultation during April and May 2013 which would enable the findings and recommendations to be considered by local residents, statutory consultees, developers and landowners. These comments would be evaluated and reported back to Cabinet for further consideration and adoption.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Cole for his attendance it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Council be advised that the Scrutiny Committee supported the Cabinet recommendation to endorse the 2013 updates to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Study and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and to endorse the Draft Settlement Break Review for consultation purposes

Monitoring the Delivery of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with progress in relation to the implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations from previous policy reviews conducted by the relevant scrutiny committees during 2010/11 and 2011/12 respectively.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator, presented the report reminding the Committee that the revised monitoring arrangements saw the Committee monitoring arrangements in relation to policy reviews for the two previous years only and to receive reports by exception.

Members were given updates on recommendations in relation to 'The Role of Culture in Supporting Sustainable Communities' by Ms. Trina Murphy, Heritage and Resorts Manager and Ms. Julie Gray, Head of Community Services and on 'Low Carbon Economy' and 'Low Carbon Vehicles in the Delivery of Public Service's' by Mr. Les Clark, Head of Street Scene.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the progress towards the completion of the actions detailed within the action plans appended to the report be received and noted.

OFSTED Inspections of Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services

The Chief Executive and Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a joint report (copy circulated) providing the Committee with the final inspection report and draft action plan following the recently successful Ofsted inspection of the Council's Adoption Service. The report also provided a second progress update in the implementation of the action plan arising from the announced inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services which took place in February / March, 2012.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Shattock made reference to issue B4 and commented that although reports of the CAMHS Service improving it could still take over 20 weeks for a referral to be processed. Ms. Boustead informed Members that the providers advised that they constantly monitored and reprioritised any children on the waiting list so if any children were at risk or there was a particular issue that arose they could get those turned around in a week.

Councillor Tate spoke of previous concerns over people not turning up for appointment and asked how the service was tackling this problem. Ms. Boustead advised that they provided the service in community locations so it was more accessible for the individual and that they could choose which venue they preferred but informed Members that the majority chose Monkwearmouth Hospital and this option had not reduced the numbers of individuals not attending. Members were informed that meetings were held on a monthly basis where any issues or concerns around individual cases could be discussed and reprioritised where necessary. Improvements were being made and they would continue to monitor cases closely.

In relation to targets around adoptions within the City, Ms. Boustead advised that there were two key indicators, one was the whole journey from the child first becoming a looked after child to then moving in with a family. The target for this was currently 617 days and the authority was operating at 670 days. Ms. Boustead informed Members that performance in relation to this target was improving and explained that it was measured on a three year average so the 670 days would be the average from years 2010 to 2012.

The second was the family finder indicator and this was measured from the day the Courts agreed to place a child up for adoption to them being matched with a family and being ready to move in which was currently a target of 214 days. The Council were operating at 260/270 days but informed the Committee that the service did place a lot of older children in families and siblings together which could be more difficult and take longer but was more beneficial for the young people involved.

Ms. Ann Blakey, Headteacher, commented that she felt parents needed more support following the completion of the adoption and was informed that the local authority remained responsible for the child three years after an adoption was complete but even following that families were advised that they could contact their local authority to access any additional support or services and as an adopted child they should be made a priority.

Councillor Wright referred to the ongoing cutbacks and financial restraints being faced by the authority and asked if these would have any detrimental effect on the adoption service and Ms. Boustead advised that they did have efficiency targets and they were aware that future efficiencies would need to be made and it would be more difficult on the service but that the Council were committed to providing an adoption service that had the best interests of the child at the centre of it. Members were informed that Managers in the service had been reduced and realigned and that they had looked at different ways to support managers. With regard to frontline services and social workers Ms. Boustead advised that they had not been asked to make efficiencies in these areas as it was realised how critical these services were.

The Committee thanked Ms. Boustead for what was a positive and impressive report, and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the very positive Adoption Inspection report and the associated actions the Council plans to undertake in response be received and noted; and
- (ii) the progress to date in implementing the announced inspection action plan be received and noted.

Scrutiny Policy Review 2012/2013 of the Scrutiny Panels – Final Reports

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided the Committee with the draft recommendations of five of the six of the second round of scrutiny policy review undertaken between January and March, 2013 by the Scrutiny Lead Members and their supporting panels.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

The Committee were taken through the proposed recommendations from five of the six scrutiny policy reviews for endorsement, prior to their submission to Cabinet for consideration. Ms. Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, advised that with regard to the report of the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel, the Health Protocol which will act as a framework for the Council, Healthwatch, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the NHS Commissioning Board to work together was currently out for consultation with the relevant bodies that will sign up to it.

5. RESOLVED that the Committee endorse the five scrutiny policy reviews, in particular the recommendations as outlined in Section 3 of the report, prior to submitting them to Cabinet in June.

Notice of Key Decisions

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 16 April 2013.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman asked any Members having issues to raise or requiring further detail on any of the items included in the notice, to contact the Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Helen Lancaster for initial assistance.

Councillor Shattock referred to Item no. 130416/03 – Proposal for Transfer of current in-house Care Provision to Local Authority Trading Company and asked the Scrutiny Co-ordinator to provide Members with an update.

6. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions as detailed above be received and noted.

Annual Work Programme 2012/13

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) attaching for Members' information, the work programme for the Committee's work undertaken during the 2012/13 council year.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

7. RESOLVED that the information contained in the work programme be received and noted.

Lead Scrutiny Member Update: April 2013

The Lead Scrutiny Members submitted a joint report (copy circulated) providing an update to the Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of each of the six Lead Scrutiny Members and supporting Panels.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Committee received an update from those Lead Scrutiny Members present on the work that had been carried out by the Scrutiny Panels, the majority of which had now concluded and produced recommendations as previously considered under Item 7 of the agenda.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the update of the Lead Scrutiny Members be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and contributions to the meeting.

(Signed) R.D. TATE,
Chairman.

At an Extraordinary Meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 16TH APRIL, 2013 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Tate in the Chair

Councillors Bonallie, Howe, T. Martin, and N. Wright.

Also Present:-

Councillor G. Miller Portfolio Holder for Health, Housing and Adult Services – Item 3

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Errington, Francis and Shattock.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no interests declared.

Scrutiny Policy Reviews 2012/13: Response from Cabinet – 13 March 2013

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on 13 March 2013, regarding one of six of the first round of scrutiny policy reviews undertaken by scrutiny in 2012/13.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor G. Miller had been invited to attend for this item of business to provide feedback following Cabinet's consideration of the Policy Review; 'Accessing Mental Health Services in Sunderland' undertaken by the Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel and decisions in relation to, the Scrutiny Panel's recommendations.

Councillor G. Miller congratulated the Scrutiny Panel in its choice of review commenting that this was a key area of policy review and proceeded to provide a comprehensive feedback account of the work undertaken on the policy review on Accessing Mental Health Services in Sunderland and progress on delivering the recommendations of the review through the actions identified and set out in the appendix to the report.

Mr Graham King, Head of Strategic Commissioning commented that Officers were confident that a number of the recommendations could be completed quickly and ahead of schedule.

Mr Neil Revely, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services added that Officers had worked hard to ensure that the policy review had complemented the work which had already been done on this area and it was anticipated that this work would continue and the recommendations would be implemented to take the service forward.

Members welcomed the review and particular the actions to raise awareness of the signs associated with mental illness and the services available to help people with mental health problems.

In response to the Chairman, Mr King reported that there had been one or two issues in the last couple of weeks with regards to the call response times of the Customer Service Centre (CSC). This was not unusual when a service migrated. The situation had now calmed down as extra staff resources had been engaged and those staff dealing with these kinds of issues had been more embedded. He advised that the new access to service model was based on Customer Service Network (CSN) triage and that the customer received a better service when he/she did get through.

Mr Revely advised that call response times were monitored by the Head of Customer Service and Development, Ms Liz St Louis on a daily basis and that the new telephone numbers to call to access the different Council service areas had been publicised.

The Chairman asked that the new CSC telephone numbers be publicised again and redistributed to Councillors so that Members could access them readily and they were aware of which number to call for the various service enquiries.

Once Councillor Miller had presented his feedback and answered questions he left the meeting.

The Chairman having thanked the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for his attendance; it was:-

1. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan appended to the report at appendix 1 and the information brought out during the discussion be noted; the CSN numbers to be publicised again and redistributed to Councillors as detailed above; and
- (ii) the action plan be referred to the Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel for further consideration.

Quality Account

The Deputy Director Performance and Assurance, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust submitted a report (copy circulated) inviting the Scrutiny Committee to comment on the Trust's Quality Account.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Jennifer Illingworth, Deputy Director Performance and Assurance provided the Committee with a comprehensive presentation briefing the Committee on the aims of Quality Accounts, the Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (NTW) Quality Goals for 2009-2015, the process of developing this year's Quality Account, the new Quality Priorities for 2013/14 and how to comment on NTW Quality Accounts.

Ms Illingworth clarified that the number of incidents reported for 2012/13 under the impact of 'Catastrophic, Death' included in the draft report should in fact read '93' and not '511'.

Members were then given the opportunity of asking questions.

The Chairman asked for the figures in relation to the number of incidents reported by impact for 2012/13 to be broken down in terms of locality and the information provided to Members detailing how many were residents of Sunderland.

Members referred to the policy review undertaken by the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee into malnutrition and dehydration in hospitals.

Ms Illingworth stated that she was not aware personally that this was an issue in any of the hospitals included in the Trust however she would make some enquiries and report back the findings to Members of the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor N. Wright stated that when the Scrutiny Committee had reviewed the CAMHS provision that one of the main issues identified was 'Did Not Attends' and she asked Ms Illingworth to inform the Scrutiny Committee how quickly improvements would be made in this respect.

Ms Illingworth advised that the Trust was looking at a variety of ways to try and improve the 'Did Not Attends' levels. Measures included text messaging patients to remind them of their appointments, having appointments in different venues which were more convenient for the patient etc. She added that after all of this if a patient did not attend, contact was made with the GP and the GP would look to try a different form of engagement.

Ms Illingworth stated that a quarterly update on how these measures were impacting on the figures would be available at the end of September and she would be happy to return before the Committee then and brief Members on the detail if they would like this.

In response to Councillor N. Wright, Ms Illingworth stated that the main concerns the Trust was currently experiencing was the challenge it faced due to the reduction in the amount of money it had to provide a better service and keep people safe. Work

was being undertaken to upskill the Community Teams to try to keep people out of hospital unless they really needed to be there.

Ms Illingworth advised, in response to a question regarding the number of deaths resulting from people who had been through the system but had not been cured of their addictions and had been sleeping rough, that she would make some enquiries as to whether this level of detail was available and if so provide it to Members for their information.

Ms Illingworth repeated her offer to return later in the year to provide the Committee with further information or provide a report.

Full discussion having taken place, the Chairman thanked Ms Illingworth for her attendance and commented that he looked forward to the updates she had agreed to provide. It was therefore:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Quality Account and supporting presentation be received and noted; and
- (ii) the comments made as detailed above, inform a formal response to be submitted on behalf of the Scrutiny function by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

Local Account for Sunderland

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services and the Head of Strategy, Policy and Performance submitted a joint report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with the final version of the first Adult Social Care Local Account for Sunderland, which had been developed in consultation with the Adults Partnership Board.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Graham King, Head of Strategic Commissioning briefed the Committee on the report and advised that since the discontinuation of the Care Quality Commission's Annual Performance Assessment for Adult Social Care and its inspections of adult social care departments, the Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care Board had been leading on the rollout of a national programme of sector led improvement within adult social care and one of the requirements was that each local authority would produce an annual self assessment setting out progress against priorities for quality and outcomes. Mr King added that there was no requirement to submit the Adult Social Care Local Account for Sunderland to the Scrutiny Committee, however the comments from the Committee would be welcome and would provide a challenge. In addition the Department would be putting itself forward for a peer review in order to test out its plans which in all likelihood would take place in July.

Councillor N. Wright commented that the report was very positive and enquired how the Department would ensure effective service delivery continued given the significant and ongoing budget reductions. She also asked what the big challenges the city faced in terms of adult social care other than budget reductions and what plans were in place to address them.

Mr King stated that the Department was not immune from the current financial climate as it received a big part of the Council budget. The Directorate was looking to find significant efficiencies around new service models. Extra Care for example, was not only good for the individual but it was cheaper. In this way service developments could result in efficiencies. It was a complex issue but the Directorate was doing everything it could to contribute to the savings the Council was having to make. The current economic climate provided a huge challenge but despite everything the Council was still providing social care under all four 'Fair Access to Care' bands and was the only Local Authority which was doing so in the country.

In response to Members' enquiries, Mr King advised that the Telecare service was to be a much more targeted service. This was a discretionary service area and it was unusual for customers not to be charged for it. It was too soon since the initial letters had gone out to customers to know how much income the service would generate. Mr King added that this was a service customers could pay for through their Personal Budget if they were buying other services. The Directorate would be in a position to report back on take up of the service in the next couple of months.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the first Local Account for Sunderland be noted,
- (ii) a report be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at the appropriate time to inform of the take up for the Telecare service; and
- (iii) a report be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on the outcome of the proposed Peer Review.

Monitoring the Delivery of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with progress in relation to the implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations from six policy reviews conducted by the relevant scrutiny committees during 2010/11 and 2011/12 respectively as follows:-

Scrutiny Committee	Policy Review
Community and Safer City	Alcohol, Violence and the Night time Economy (2010/11)
Prosperity and Economic Development	University City (2011/12)
Sustainable Communities	Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity (2011/12)
Community and Safer City	Community Cohesion (2011/12)
Management Scrutiny Committee	At What Cost: The Effects of High-cost Credit and Illegal Loan Sharks on Local Communities (2011/12)
Children, Young People and Learning	As soon as Possible: Early Intervention and Locality Services

(For copy report – see original minutes).

4. RESOLVED that the progress towards completion of the actions detailed within the Action Plans as set out in Appendices A-F of the report be noted.

Annual report 2012/2013

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to consider the draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator having confirmed that the Vice Chairman's name and photograph would be included in the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for the Municipal Year 2012/13, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be endorsed for submission to the first meeting of the Council in the Municipal Year 2013/14 and for subsequent circulation to key stakeholders.

(Signed) R.D. TATE,
Chairman.

At an Extraordinary Meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on MONDAY, 13TH MAY, 2013 at 5.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Tate in the Chair

Councillors Bonallie, Francis, Howe, T. Martin, Shattock and N. Wright.

Also Present:-

Councillor P. Watson, Leader of the Council – Item 3

Councillor P. Smith, Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services – Item 3

Councillor J. Kelly, Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Wellness and Culture – Item 3

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Errington.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no interests declared.

Response from Cabinet – 13th February 2013 and 13th March 2013 – Scrutiny Policy Reviews

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide feedback from the Cabinet meetings held on 13th February and 13th March 2013, regarding three of six of the first round of scrutiny policy reviews undertaken by scrutiny in 2012/13.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members of the Cabinet had been invited to attend for this item of business to provide feedback on Cabinet’s consideration of the policy reviews undertaken by the scrutiny panels and how it intends to deliver the recommendations of each panel as follows:-

Scrutiny Panel	Policy Review	Portfolio Holder
Skills, Economy and Regeneration	The Government’s Work Programme	Leader of the Council
Children’s Services	Improvement, Admissions and Planning; the implications of the Education Act 2011	Cllr P. Smith
Public Health, Wellness	The Role of the Local Authority	Cllr J. Kelly

Councillor P. Watson provided a comprehensive feedback account of the work undertaken to progress the actions on the appendix to the report relating to the policy review on 'The Government's Work Programme'.

Councillor Watson advised that according to the Office of National Statistics, employment in the private sector in Sunderland had increased by 15.5 %, whereas the average increase for the rest of the region was 2.8%. Sunderland was the biggest private sector employer in the region. He added that the strategy of the Economic Masterplan had been influential in this.

In response to Members' questions, Councillor Watson advised that the employment rate in Sunderland was approximately 10% at present. Whilst there had been some improvements in the unemployment rate, it was above the regional average, although not the highest in the region.

Members commented that the workforce in the area was highly valued and on the importance of training programmes and apprenticeships where these workskills could be brought to the fore and further developed.

Councillor P. Smith provided feedback on the progress of the actions relating to the implications of the Education Act 2011.

Mr Keith Moore, Executive Director of Children's Services emphasised that the Authority was keen to work with and support all types of schools for the benefit of school children in Sunderland. Officers were in the process of developing the Education Strategy which would sit alongside the Economic Masterplan so that business was more closely linked into schools to ensure a wider understanding of the City going forward.

Councillor J. Kelly provided feedback on the progress of the seven actions identified in relation to the policy review on the Role of the Local Authority in Health Issues.

Ms Nonnie Crawford, Director of Public Health highlighted the recommendation to increase the number of Health Champions explaining what the role entailed. She invited Members to put themselves forward as community health champions pointing out that the Coalfields and East Areas of the city were under represented.

Members of the Cabinet thanked the Committee for the opportunity to attend the meeting, provide feedback and answer questions asked by Members of the Scrutiny Committee. Once they had presented their feedback and answered questions they left the meeting.

The Chairman having thanked the Cabinet Members for their attendance it was:-

1. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the proposed actions detailed within each of the Action Plans appended to the report at appendices 1 to 3 and the information brought out during the discussion be noted; and
- (ii) each of the action plans be referred to the relevant scrutiny panels for further consideration.

Future Library Services

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Scrutiny Committee with the findings of the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel in respect of the Future Library Service.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer referred the Committee to the findings which were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Ms Julie Gray, Head of Community Services briefed Members on the current position of the review. She advised that the intention was to report the findings of the first stage of the consultation process to the Cabinet in June and following this a comprehensive consultation process would be undertaken on detailed proposals for the future library service at the second stage; the findings of which would be analysed and reported back to Cabinet in July with a recommendation for a proposed future service model.

Ms Gray advised that more than 2,700 responses had been received following the first stage of the consultation process. She informed the Committee that one of the areas for consultation included developing a network of volunteers to add value to the overall service offer and whilst only a small number had come forward, there was already a range of programmes in place to try to get people interested in volunteering.

Ms Gray advised the Committee that a report would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration at its June meeting.

Members queried whether it would be possible to achieve the timescales which had been reported given the extensive consultation and engagement sessions that were planned to inform the review.

Ms Gray advised that in all likelihood there would need to be a Special meeting of the Cabinet convened in July in order to allow for a four week period of consultation on the proposals.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the findings of the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel in respect of the Future Library Service, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed by the Scrutiny Committee;
- (ii) a report be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration at its June meeting; and
- (iii) the Head of Community Services and Scrutiny Coordinator discuss in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman whether/when a further report on the detailed proposals for the future service model needed to be

submitted to the Scrutiny Committee/ Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel after this as part of the consultation process.

Scrutiny Policy Reviews 2012/13: Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel – Final Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with the draft recommendations of the Health, Housing and Adult Services' Policy Review looking at Empty Properties in Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Lead Member for Health, Housing & Adult Services, Councillor Shattock referred the Committee to the draft recommendations of the Empty Properties in Sunderland Policy Review as set out at section 9, on page 33 of the agenda papers.

Full consideration having being given to the report it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the Policy Review of the Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel and in particular the recommendations arising from the Review as outlined in section 3 of the report of the Chief Executive, be endorsed by the Scrutiny Committee and submitted to the Cabinet for consideration at a future meeting.

(Signed) R.D. TATE,
Chairman.

FUTURE LIBRARY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 As part of scrutiny's ongoing involvement in the review of Future Library Services, the Scrutiny Committee will be consulted on the report to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting of 19 June 2013.
- 1.2 The report (**copy to follow**) will provide the Scrutiny Committee with:-
- (a) the results of the consultation programme for Library Services;
 - (b) the proposed future service model which includes the consultation results, the vision for library services and the efficiencies to be realised; and
 - (c) the approach to the next stage of consultation on the proposed model and timeline for implementation.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Committee will receive the report in advance of its meeting on 13 June, following the publishing of the Cabinet agenda on 11 June 2013.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting of 13 March 2013, the Scrutiny Committee was informed of the review of library provision in Sunderland, including details of the extensive two stage consultation and engagement programme being undertaken.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Committee commissioned the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel to be consulted on the Future Library Service on its behalf. At its meeting of 13 May, the Scrutiny Committee endorsed the findings and recommendations of the Panel in full.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Substantial consultation and engagement has been undertaken with all stakeholders about the types of neighbourhood and overall provision that best suit their needs. A two stage consultation approach has been adopted with residents (including children and young people), users and non-users, staff, partners, voluntary and community groups and members. The first stage of consultation is now closed and the results have been used to inform the proposed model for library services.
- 3.2 Cabinet will consider the results of the consultation, the proposed model for library services, and the next stage of consultation at its meeting of 19 June 2013.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider and comment upon the Future Library Services Cabinet report (**copy to follow**) regarding:-

- (a) the results of the consultation programme;
- (b) the proposed future service model; and
- (c) the approach to the next stage of consultation and the timeline for implementation.

5.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

5.1 The following background papers were relied upon to compile this report:

- Cabinet Agenda 13 February 2013
- Scrutiny Committee Agenda, 13 May 2013

Contact Officer : Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator
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 helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL REFERRAL: CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) UPDATE**REPORT OF THE CHILDRENS SERVICES SCRUTINY LEAD MEMBER****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide the Scrutiny Committee with the Children's Services Scrutiny Panel's findings and recommendations in relation to the commissioned item from the Committee.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 13 September 2012 the Scrutiny Committee received a report detailing the outcomes of the announced inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services in Sunderland. In discussing the report concerns were raised in relation to the waiting times for CAMHS Tier 2 and Tier 3 support and it was agreed that the Children's Services Scrutiny Panel should be commissioned to investigate this further.
- 2.2 The Children's Services Scrutiny Panel held a meeting on 16 October 2012 to discuss the issues raised at the Scrutiny Committee. The Council's Head of Safeguarding and the Primary Care Trust's (PCT) Children's Health Commissioning Officer were in attendance at the panel's meeting. A further meeting was arranged 3 December 2012 with NTW Children and Young People Services, the new provider of CAMHS in Sunderland, to discuss their approach and progress in reducing waiting times.
- 2.3 It was agreed following discussions with panel members and the Scrutiny Committee that progress would be monitored and officers invited back to the Children's Services Scrutiny Panel at an appropriate juncture. Subsequently a meeting was held on 20 May 2013 to outline progress and developments in relation to the CAMHS service now provided by NTW Children and Young People Services.

3. CAMHS SERVICE - UPDATE

- 3.1 The Children and Young People Service are now confident that they fully understand the size of the business and all new cases are entered into the new service model. Every case, since the initial transfer, has been reviewed and appropriate courses of action arranged in consultation with individuals and their families.
- 3.2 It was also noted that a process was now in place for regular reviews and that periodically everyone on the waiting list was contacted to check on their progress and to ensure levels of risk remained unchanged. Where there was evidence of increased risk the process could be accelerated, it was important that the service could adapt and change as required.
- 3.3 A CQUIN (Commissioning for Quality and Innovation) target has now been agreed with commissioners to reduce waiting list/times and to assist in the service working towards a maximum waiting time of six weeks. Various measures and actions have

been planned to work towards this significant goal including increasing the workforce, increasing throughput, improving Choice Appointment Efficiency, providing extra clinical sessions, reducing DNA's, reducing senior clinician's caseloads and promoting alternatives. It was highlighted that by 30 January 2013 approximately 70 per cent of all cases were now waiting less than 18 weeks, and this was noted as a good sign of progress.

- 3.4 Assurances were given to the Scrutiny Panel that the contract was being monitored very robustly. The issue previously had been around the block contract nature of the commission and service arrangements and there had been little scrutiny. This current contract was very clear around service specification and performance monitoring targets. There are monthly monitoring meetings where new issues are picked up and themes and trends are discussed between commissioners and service leads. There are also more than 100 KPI's which provide data around a variety of performance related issues and it was noted that there was absolute clarity and assurance around each of these KPI's.
- 3.5 In terms of resources it was noted that the service was seeking to recruit to all vacant posts in a timely manner, as well as ensuring that vacancy authorisations were in place for active recruitment at the point of an individual leaving the service. It was also explained that all new staff were fully inducted into the service and the service model. Members asked about the effects of the changes on staff and it was reported that systems were also in place to ensure that the organisation supports its staff and that the burden was not solely on frontline staff. The extra investment in personnel has and will continue to contribute to this.
- 3.6 Members were also pleased to learn that an informal drop-in arrangement had been introduced for all members of staff to discuss issues, promote information sharing and provide a platform for service development/improvement. Sickness rates within the service were also a testament to the investment in staff welfare with current rates of just over three per cent compared with national NHS national averages of six per cent.
- 3.7 In relation to DNA's focused work has been undertaken to investigate the high levels of missed appointments. It was noted that even though DNA rates were still at the lower end of national rates, it was still expected that these rates would fall further as the CAPA system takes effect. It was reported that staff continued to be very proactive in engaging service users in first appointments including providing choice of time, venue and date wherever possible.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Children's Service Scrutiny Panel recognised the work and progress the Children and Young People Service have made in taking over part of the CAMHS service from previous service providers.
- 4.2 The Panel also acknowledges the robust monitoring arrangements that have been developed and implemented in the new service contract specifications. The series of KPI's, monthly monitoring meetings and performance data will ensure that the new service is transparent and accountable.

4.3 The Panel also felt it worthwhile to continue to monitor the situation and chart the progress of the Children and Young People Service in meeting targets around waiting times.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 That the Scrutiny Committee considers the continued monitoring of CAMHS waiting times by the Children's Services Scrutiny Panel and receives relevant information and progress through the Children's Services Scrutiny Lead Member update as and when appropriate.

6. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CAPA	Choice and Partnership Approach
CQUIN	Commissioning for Quality and Innovation
DNA	Did Not Attend
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
NTW	North of Tyne and Wear Foundation Trust
PCT	Primary Care Trust

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COMPOSITION OF THE SUPPORTING SCRUTINY PANELS 2013/14

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the proposed composition of the supporting Scrutiny Panels.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As the Committee is aware, in May 2012, changes made to the Council's Executive and Committee arrangements included a new model for scrutiny.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Commissioning Model reflects the role of scrutiny in accommodating key statutory functions, but also allows for a more focused, flexible and responsive function in challenging times.

3. THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee will continue to convene monthly and will comprise of the Chair, Vice-Chair and six Lead Scrutiny Members.
- 3.2 The Committee will also continue to comprise a number of statutory co-opted Members in a Church of England Representative, Roman Catholic Church Schools Representative and two parent governors. These co-opted Members while holding positions on the committee will primarily be there to add their expert view in matters with an educational, children or young person focus. As with previous practice, the remaining co-opted members who do not hold a statutory position continue to be involved in the work of the relevant scrutiny panels bringing their expertise and knowledge to the work being undertaken.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny Committee acts as the overarching committee with responsibility for all matters in relation to the improvement, delivery and performance of the scrutiny function. This includes the establishment of informal scrutiny panels chaired by a scrutiny lead member to champion scrutiny within their remit and examine in-depth priority issues.
- 3.4 The Scrutiny Committee also acts as the designated Scrutiny Committee for statutory purposes for both health and crime and disorder scrutiny and where relevant statutory flood and coastal erosion scrutiny.

- 3.5 In particular the council's Scrutiny function has statutory obligations to undertake in regard to health services. The powers of overview and scrutiny under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 enable councils to review matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in its local authority area. It is also the duty of each local provider to consult through the Council's scrutiny mechanisms on any proposals for a substantial development of the health service, or in making a substantial variation in the provision of such services. The Council can choose not to be consulted on such an issue if it does not believe that it would add additional value to the involvement and consultation already undertaken.

4. LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBERS

- 4.1 Lead Scrutiny Members are the Council's lead overview and scrutiny member for a particular remit, and also act as the overview and scrutiny champion for the Authority. The six Lead Members have specific remits as follows:

- (a) Children's Services;
- (b) City Services;
- (c) Health, Housing and Adult Services;
- (d) Public Health, Wellness and Culture;
- (e) Responsive Services and Customer Care; and
- (f) Skills, Economy and Regeneration.

- 4.2 These remits are aligned to the Executive's Portfolios and remain unchanged from 2012/13. A full breakdown of these remits is attached for information as **Appendix 1** of this report.

- 4.3 As well as being a member of the Scrutiny Committee, Lead Members work inclusively with panel members to deliver on commissioned activities and policy review projects. Lead Members chair meetings of their respective panels and are the link between the Committee and the Panel, providing progress reports up to the Committee and taking commissioned work and updates from the Committee back to the panel.

5. THE SCRUTINY PANELS

- 5.1 Non-executive Members are allocated to a panel and the membership of the panels has been decided in accordance with current political arrangements. A complete membership of the Scrutiny Panels is attached for information and consideration as **Appendix 2** of this report.

- 5.2 It should be noted that Scrutiny Panels are informal and therefore the consideration of political balance is not required. Each panel will be commissioned to undertake and complete at least one policy review during the municipal year, allowing for a greater degree of responsiveness should current or emerging issues become a priority.

5.3 In addition to undertaking policy reviews each panel will convene as and when required to carry out one-off pieces of work commissioned by the Scrutiny Committee. It is important to note that the panels will not commission their own work, however should a Lead Scrutiny Member, or Panel Member, wish to raise a new item of business this will be done through the Scrutiny Committee.

6. DEDICATED SCRUTINY BUDGET

6.1 A small budgetary provision of £15,000 per annum is available to the Scrutiny Committee and the supporting Panels to deliver the agreed Annual Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee endorses the proposed membership of the informal Scrutiny Panels for 2013/14 as outlined in **Appendix 2**.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Scrutiny Committee Agenda June 2012

Contact Officer: Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator
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<p>Health, Housing & Adult Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Care Services • Mental Health Commissioning • Supporting People including people with Disabilities • Supporting Carers • Promotion of Decent Homes and • Good Housing Standards in Private Sector Housing • Specialist Housing Support Services and Provision • Housing Renewal • Strategic Relationships with Registered Social Landlords and Private Sector Housing Providers • Homelessness and Housing Advice 	<p>Responsive Services & Customer Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Locality Working Initiatives • Responsive Local Service Initiatives • Area Committees, Partnerships and Area Boards • Local Area Plans • Area Budgets including the Community Chest • Customer Care Policy and Practice • Improving the Responsiveness of Neighbourhood Services and Facilities to Local Circumstances and Customer Feedback • Improving the Responsiveness of Personal Services to Customer Feedback • Contact Centre and Customer Services Network including Customer Services Centres • Community Development • Adult and Community Learning • Section 17 Responsibilities • Safer Sunderland Partnership • Anti-Social Behaviour • Drugs Awareness, Prevention and Treatment • Local Multi-Agency Problem-Solving Groups (LMAPS) • Community Resilience 	<p>City Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of place • Neighbourhood • Environmental Services and Street Scene • Highways, Traffic and Transportation • Highways Maintenance • Strategic Transport • Parking and Road Safety • Facilities Management • Registrars, Cemeteries and Crematoria • Play Provision • Grounds and Buildings Maintenance • Waste Management including Strategy, Refuse Collection and Recycling • Coastal Protection/Flood Risk Management • Seafront Management • Licensing, Licensing Regulation and Controlled Drinking Zones • Trading Standards • Public and Environmental Health
<p>Public Health, Wellness & Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnership with the health community of Sunderland • promotion of Public Health and Wellness • Effective transition of public health responsibilities to the City Council • Transformational approach to the achievement of improved health and well being outcomes • WHO Euro Healthy City Network • Health Awareness • Healthy Lifestyles • Healthy Environment • Sports and Wellness Initiatives and Facilities 	<p>Children's Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Trust • Corporate Parenting • Protecting Children and Young People from Harm • Promoting Good Health and Health Awareness in Children and Young People • Reduction of Child Poverty • Safeguarding and Securing the Well-Being of Children and Young People • School Renewal and Improvement Programmes • Developing the Potential of Children and Young People through • Education, Training, Personal Development and Preparation for Working Life • Promoting the Development of Skills and Capacity which will enable Children and Young People to support and benefit from the City's continuing economic development 	<p>Skills, Economy & Regeneration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosperous city • Partnership working to promote the skills of the residents • Economic prosperity • Inward Investment & business support • Regeneration • Improved employability • Boosting the skills and knowledge of the workforce • Prosperous city centre • Tourism, resorts & events

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SIX SCRUTINY PANELS

<p style="text-align: center;">City Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Stephen Bonallie</p> <p>Cllr Neville Padgett Cllr Michael Essl Cllr Stuart Porthouse Cllr Lynda Scanlan Cllr Steven Foster Cllr Amy Wilson Cllr Dianne Snowdon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Health, Housing & Adult Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Christine Shattock</p> <p>Cllr Jill Fletcher Cllr Ronny Davison Cllr Alan Emerson Cllr Rosalind Copeland Cllr Darryl Dixon Cllr Lisa Smiles Cllr Barbara McLennan Cllr Dorothy Trueman Cllr Mary Turton Cllr Gemma Taylor</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Children's Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Debra Waller</p> <p>Cllr Florence Anderson Cllr Linda Williams Cllr Doris MacKnight Cllr Anthony Farr Cllr Philip Tye Cllr Robert Oliver</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Skills, Economy & Regeneration</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Tom Martin</p> <p>Cllr Bob Price Cllr Christine Marshall Cllr David Snowdon Cllr Denny Wilson Cllr Len Lauchlan Cllr Tom Wright Cllr Peter Wood</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Public Health, Wellness & Culture</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr George Howe</p> <p>Cllr Debra Waller Cllr Louise Farthing Cllr Fiona Miller Cllr Julia Jackson Cllr Rebecca Atkinson Cllr David Errington Cllr Paul Maddison</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Responsive Services & Customer Care</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Iain Kay</p> <p>Cllr Bob Heron Cllr Betty Gibson Cllr Barry Curran Cllr Anne Lawson Cllr John Scott Cllr George Thompson Cllr John Wiper Cllr Dennis Richardson</p>

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 21 May 2013.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.

- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 21 May 2013 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 21 May 2013.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda – 19 June 2013

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28 day notice
Notice issued 24 May 2013

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions (including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
130524/01	To report the outcome of a Governance Review undertaken by the LA7 Leadership Board, and to propose the establishment of a new statutory body covering the North East LEP area (the local authorities of Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland). The purpose of the new body will be to maximize opportunities for growth, focusing on transport and skills, and to support greater collaboration between the local authorities and greater devolution of powers and funding to the North East.	Cabinet	Yes	24 June 2013	No	N/A	Cabinet report and draft Scheme setting out the proposed governance arrangements for the new body.	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below. Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Who will decide;

Cabinet; Councillor Paul Watson; Councillor Henry Trueman; Councillor Mel Speding; Councillor Pat Smith; Councillor Graeme Miller; Councillor John Kelly; Councillor James Blackburn; Councillor Celia Gofton

Elaine Waugh

Head of Law and Governance

24 May 2013